

**U.S. Comments on Draft Texts of the Code Chapter 2.4.8 (Scrapie) of the OIE
*International Animal Health Code***

(Submitted to OIE on January 7, 2002)

We have reviewed the latest draft of the Code Chapter on Scrapie (Chapter 2.4.8) and have the following recommendations:

Note: Any suggested deletions are shown as “~~strike-outs~~” and any new suggested wording is indicated in **bold**:

Articles 2.4.8.4 1) c), 2.4.8.7 1) c)2.4.8.8 1) c) and 2.4.8.9 1) c)

Suggested change:

c) affected sheep and goats are slaughtered and completely destroyed, **thus ensuring that any product derived from such animals does not enter the feed chain.**

Rationale: added language is inserted for clarification to make it clear any such destroyed product does not enter into the food chain

Article 2.4.8.2 1e)

Suggested change:

e): importation of *meat-and-bone meal* , ~~or greaves,~~ **or other materials for use in animal feed** potentially contaminated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE) or feedstuffs containing **these** ~~either~~ [it from countries or zones not free from scrapie]

Rationale for change:

The risks from importation of *meat-and bone-meal* and other animal products intended for use in animal food derived from any species originating from countries not free from animal transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSE) should be addressed in the risk assessment given the risks that might result from cross contamination.

Article 2.4.8.2 f)

Suggested change:

f): the origin of animal waste used in animal feeds, the parameters of the rendering process, and the methods of animal feed production;

Rationale for change:

Change recommended for clarity purposes.

Article 2.4.8.3, Point 6); Article 2.4.8.4 1d) and Article 2.4.8.8 1d)

Suggested changes:

Article 2.4.8.3, Point 6): the feeding to sheep and goats of *meat-and-bone meal* [derived from ruminants] ~~or greaves, or other materials for use in animal feed that are~~ potentially contaminated with an [originating from countries not free from] animal TSE has been banned and effectively enforced in the whole country for at least 7 years;

Article 2.4.8.4, Point 1d): the feeding to sheep and goats of *meat-and-bone meal* [derived from ruminants] ~~or greaves, or other materials for use in animal feed that are~~ potentially contaminated with an [originating from countries not free from] animal TSE has been banned and effectively enforced in the whole country;

Article 2.4.8.8, Point 1d): the feeding to sheep and goats of *meat-and-bone meal* [derived from ruminants] ~~or greaves, or other materials for use in animal feed that are~~ potentially contaminated with an [originating from countries not free from] animal TSE has been banned and effectively enforced in the whole country;

Rationale for change:

The risks from feed materials, other than *meat-and bone-meal* or greaves, that either contain or are cross-contaminated by animal products potentially contaminated by an animal transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE) should not be fed to sheep or goats.

Article 2.4.8.9 2b)

Suggested Change: We do not recommend this article be deleted.

b) {have been kept since birth in *establishments* in which no *case* of scrapie had been confirmed during their residency;}

Rationale for change (not deleting):

The consensus among scrapie experts is that embryos may pose a risk for transmitting scrapie. The proposed revision (deletion) would allow scrapie-exposed animals to be embryo donors.

Article 2.4.8.4. 2c)

General comment: We commend to committee for drafting the added language to **Article 2.4.8.4. 2c)**; however, we recommend that the associated proposed deletion of **Article 2.4.8.8 2b)**, be applied only to the semen produced by such rams and bucks, but not to the rams and bucks themselves because scrapie exposed rams or bucks carry a slight probability of transmitting the disease.

We hope you will find these comments useful. Thank you again for considering our comments and for the opportunity to review this Chapter.

Chapter 2.4.8 (Scrapie)

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